



SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
11a-12:30p | Wednesday, August 22, 2018
Boston Public Schools Bolling Building, Room 5-43

Presented are minutes from the Boston Compact Transportation Committee meeting held on August 22, 2018. For more information about any of the items listed below, visit www.BostonCompact.org or email info@BostonCompact.org.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present: Tcad Cort (BPS Transportation), Rahn Dorsey (Chief of Education, City of Boston), Mark Loring (Director of Network Operations, Brooke Charter Schools), Shanda Roberts (Transportation Officer, BPS), John Roderick (Transportation Director, BPS), Delavern Stanislaus (Transportation Customer Service Manager, BPS), Kevin Taylor (ED, City on a Hill), Molly Thomas (BPS Transportation), Angela Zhang (BPS Transportation)

Members Absent: Erica Brown (Chief of Policy & Practice, MCPSA), Peter Crossan (Fleet and Compliance Manager, BPS), Ali Dutson (Principal, Mission Grammar), Will Eger (Strategic Projects Manager—Finance, BPS), Ellen McDonough (Manager of Intergovernmental Relations, BPS), Lina Musayev (Capacity Building Network Managing Director, MCPSA), Shannah Varón (Executive Director, Boston Collegiate Charter School and Chair, BCA)

Others Present: Elise Swinford (Compact staff), Rachel Weinstein (Compact staff)

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS

July meeting summary approved with one revision.

UPDATES

Charter representatives met with the Mayor's Chief of Staff prior to this meeting, and had a productive conversation.

The committee congratulated **Shanda Roberts** and **Delavern Stanislaus** on their recent promotions, and welcomed **Angela Zhang** to the committee.

Del shared emergency numbers with all schools and asked that they be used only for true emergencies. She emphasized that non-emergency issues (such as late busses) be noted via the online ticketing system. **Rachel Weinstein** noted that the ticketing system also allows BPS to analyze for trends.

Fall routing: **Molly Thomas** is working on routes, and **Shanda Roberts** and **Del** are meeting with Transdev Friday to match bus routes.

Improving Operations

SASID integration: It was reported that BPS and charter data formats are not currently compatible. **Del** is in contact with IT to resolve this.

CSR build up: BPS reps noted that training is in progress in anticipation of September 4 start dates.

September routes: BPS reported that they will be sent out via email at the end of this week. Mailers go out early next week.

June bid issues: Charter representatives expressed concerns about over-capacity busses and wheelchair accessibility. BPS suggested a review of charter school bus waivers to address capacity concerns. **Mark Loring** asked for conversation about how to make summer bussing better for charters overall.

Discussion of waivers for 7th and 8th graders to ride school busses: Charter reps noted that there are many waivers because charters are city wide and MBTA transportation is sometimes difficult cross-city. **Mark** noted that the Google form waivers are in English only. **Del** will follow up on this. **Del** explained that the waiver is currently sent out via email and mailers. Charter reps requested that more information be shared with charter school ops workers.

Catholic School Transportation: **Tchad** is in contact with Catholic school reps. Conversation tabled until Catholic school representation is present. While the current system is unlikely to change this year, **Tchad** noted that gathering pertinent information by the end of May 2019 will aid in planning for next year. This topic will be put on the calendar for October for conversation with **John Hanlon**.

Dual enrollment: BPS sent lists of dually enrolled students to charters, half of which have replied with information on enrollment. **Molly** recommended that one time next week, charter schools note who among these students is riding the bus and who is not, then send that information back to BPS. **Mark** recommended taking this census at the end of September for better data.

Safety protocols: **Del** is working on communicating these to schools more efficiently/ effectively after the September rush.

EMERGENT ISSUES

Kevin Taylor affirmed the success of collaboration regarding school transportation as a result of this committee, and raised the possibility of highlighting this collaborative effort more publicly. **Rachel** will add this to the sector leader meeting agenda with the Mayor.

The committee wished **John Roderick** luck in his future endeavors.

ACTION ITEMS

- BPS will share plans for innovation.
- **Molly** will communicate with charter ops reps about bus “attendance day” plans.
- **Del** will work on having Google Forms translated.
- The May deadline for Catholic school plans will be added to the work calendar, and **Del** will discuss Catholic school transportation with **John Hanlon** in October.